

MIT's Oldest and
Largest Newspaper

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WEATHER, p. 2

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| | TUE: 49°F 32°F |
| | Wind and rain |
| | THU: 50°F 33°F |

Volume 131, Number 54

Tuesday, November 22, 2011

Stephanie Lin wins Rhodes

Senior will study medical anthropology at Oxford

By Derek Chang
ASSOCIATE NEWS EDITOR

Stephanie Lin '12 was recognized this week as MIT's newest Rhodes Scholar. She will be studying at Oxford next year along with 32 other American recipients who received the honor. Lin is the 45th MIT undergraduate to receive the Rhodes Scholarship.

"I was extremely surprised when I got the news," said Lin, a biology major and applied international studies minor. "The other applicants are all so highly accomplished — I feel very lucky to have received the scholarship."

Lin will be spending her year at Oxford to pursue an MPhil in medical anthropology. "I'm interested in studying viruses and infectious diseases, especially when they are applied to issues in international medicine," she said.

According to Lin, one of her inspirations to pursue medicine was the work that she did at Health Leads Boston, a patient advocacy program that works to improve the health of individual children and families. There, she volunteered in hospital waiting rooms and referred patients to resources like food stamps. "My work in Health Leads has introduced me to the social, human side of medicine, and I especially enjoy the blend of scientific and social issues involved in medicine," Lin said.

Lin has been involved in the MIT community ever since she arrived on campus. She was first interested in pursuing chemistry, but after taking introductory biology, she was convinced that biology was the right major for her.

The activities that Lin has participated in



JOSEPH MAURER—THE TECH
Stephanie Lin '12 won a Rhodes scholarship to study medical anthropology at Oxford University next year. She is majoring in biology.

Rhodes, Page 11

Occupy UC digs heels in Students protest tuition & police action

By Jennifer Medina
THE NEW YORK TIMES

LOS ANGELES — It has become something of an annual tradition on California college campuses, in what is perhaps the most prestigious state university system in the country: the state makes large cuts in public universities, they in turn raise tuition, and students respond with angry protests.

Protests, Page 11

IN SHORT

Last warning: drop date is this Wednesday. Go drop the classes you said you were going to drop two weeks ago.

The Tech will not be publishing this coming Friday due to Thanksgiving break. Our staffers need a break and massive amounts of tryptophan.

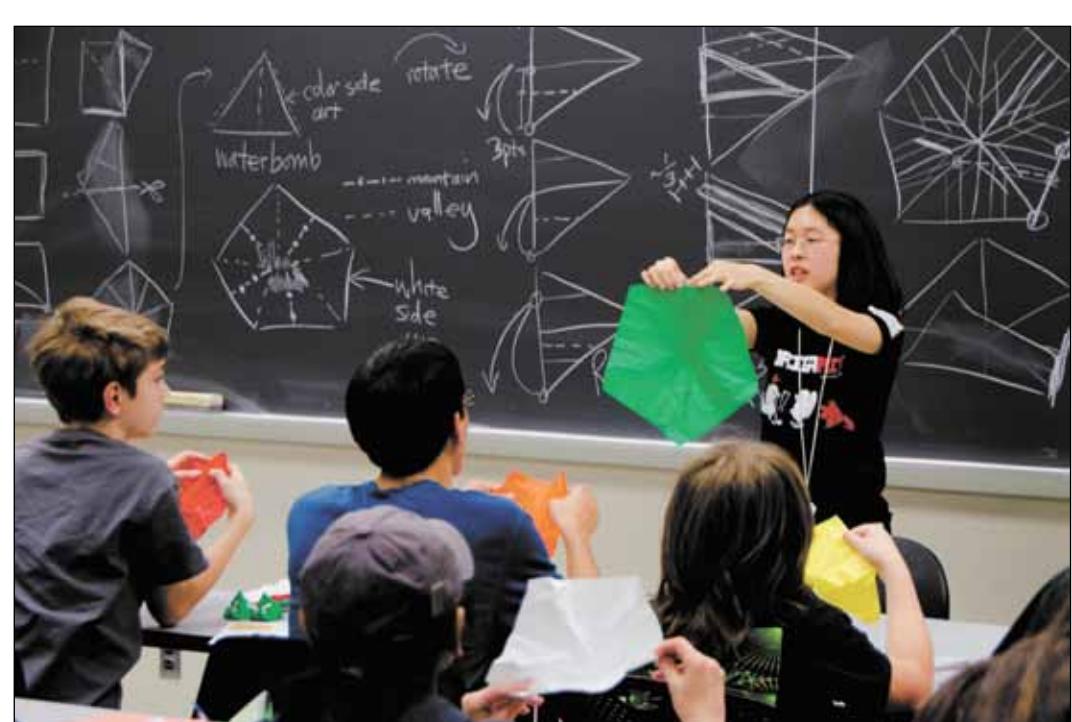
Do some good in this world. Participate to the MIT Public Service's Giving Tree program, which provides

needy children with gifts during the holiday season.

Yesterday, *Bloomberg Business Week* ranked MIT's undergraduate business program as the ninth best in the nation!

Campus Activities Complex (CAC) room reservation for the 2012-2013 academic year opens next Monday at 9 a.m. Reserve the rooms while they're fresh. For more information, visit <http://studentlife.mit.edu/cac>.

I fold!



MELISSA RENEE SHUMACHER—THE TECH
Michelle Fung '13 shows students how to fold a pentagonal rose during Origami's first origami conference on Saturday.

A TALE OF TWO TURKEYS

Meet turkey A and turkey B. They've got interesting stories to tell.

CAMPUS LIFE, p. 9

AT THE END OF THE WORLD

Melancholia is weird ... pretty weird.

ARTS, p. 7

21W @ MIT

Life as a writing major at MIT.

CAMPUS LIFE, p. 9



OVERHEAR SOMETHING FUNNY?

Sometimes Engineers say the darndest things.

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TRADITION AND MODERNITY

Old and new, West and East meet in photography exhibit.

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China bends to solar complaint by US but plans retaliation

HONG KONG — Solar panel makers in China plan to shift some of their production to South Korea, Taiwan and the United States in hopes of defusing a trade case pending against them in Washington, according to industry executives.

But at the same time, the Chinese industry is considering retaliating by filing a trade case of its own with China's Commerce Ministry.

The most likely target would be U.S. exports to China of polysilicon — a prime ingredient in solar panels — Chinese industry executives and officials said Monday. U.S. manufacturers last year exported about \$873 million of polysilicon to China last year, nearly as much in dollar terms as the value of the solar panels that China shipped to the United States.

The Chinese moves come after the United States Commerce Department opened a trade case against China's solar panel makers earlier this month, at the request of seven U.S. solar companies.

—Keith Bradsher, *The New York Times*

France, Sarkozy look vulnerable as euro crisis persists

PARIS — With the humiliating defeat on Sunday of the Socialists in Spain, the two-year euro crisis has already toppled eight governments, sending shivers of anxiety through the Elysee Palace and even the White House.

The main theme of recent elections has been voters' unhappiness with austerity, uncertainty and whatever party or coalition happens to be in power. But under the pressure of the markets and the demands of Germany, Europe's de facto financial leader, new governments have largely had to promise more of the same.

As the markets have swung from one vulnerable target to another, Ireland, Portugal, Greece, Italy, Finland, Denmark and Slovakia have all altered their governments, either through elections or parliamentary maneuverings.

President Nicolas Sarkozy of France fears being next, with French bond costs rising to record highs, growth flat and a presidential election in April. The danger of a downgrade of French bonds has weakened Sarkozy.

—Steven Erlanger and Nicholas Kulish, *The New York Times*

Separating you and me? 4.74 degrees.

Adding a new chapter to the research that cemented the phrase "six degrees of separation" into the language, scientists at Facebook and the University of Milan reported on Monday that the average number of acquaintances separating any two people in the world was not six but 4.74.

The original "six degrees" finding, published in 1967 by the psychologist Stanley Milgram, was drawn from 296 volunteers who were asked to send a message by postcard, through friends and then friends of friends, to a specific person in a Boston suburb.

The new research used a slightly bigger cohort: 721 million Facebook users, more than one-tenth of the world's population. The findings were posted on Facebook's website Monday night.

The experiment took one month. The researchers used a set of algorithms developed at the University of Milan to calculate the average distance between any two people by computing a vast number of sample paths among Facebook users. They found that the average number of links from one arbitrarily selected person to another was 4.74. In the United States, where more than half of people over 13 are on Facebook, it was just 4.37.

—John Markoff and Somini Sengupta, *The New York Times*

WEATHER

Wet Wednesday could cause travel trouble

By Vince Agard

STAFF METEOROLOGIST

While the day before Thanksgiving is often the busiest travel day of the year in the United States, those heading home for the holiday may experience weather-related problems tomorrow. A low pressure system that is currently developing over the Midwest will intensify and head eastward today, impacting New England by tomorrow morning. Unfortunately, this will bring stormy conditions

for tomorrow, with rainfall totals from 1-2 inches, and winds possibly gusting in excess of 30 mph. These conditions could contribute to significant travel delays, especially for those traveling by air.

For those staying in town for Thanksgiving, the storm will have passed by Thursday, leaving in its wake sunny skies and seasonal temperatures for the fall holiday. Then, another warm and pleasant weekend is in store, with temperatures approaching 60°F by Saturday.

Extended Forecast

Today: Sunny. High 49°F (9°C).

Tonight: Cloudy, rain beginning late. Low 42°F (6°C).

Tomorrow: Windy with rain becoming heavy at times. High 52°F (11°C).

Thursday: Sunny. High 50°F (10°C).

Friday: Sunny. High 55°F (12°C).

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 2011

Obama sidestepped the deficit committee debacle

By Jackie Calmes

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON — In remaining aloof from the special deficit committee in Congress even as it collapsed on Monday, President Barack Obama showed his calculation more clearly than ever before: Republicans will never agree to raise taxes on the wealthy to balance any spending cuts, so let the voters decide.

Congress still could reach a bipartisan compromise in the next month, or next year, to avoid the threat of automatic spending cuts, especially in military programs, in 2013. But the president is figuring that Congress will not, and he will campaign by contrasting what he calls his "balanced" approach to putting the nation on a solid fiscal footing again to Republicans' anti-tax reliance on spending cuts, especially for Medicare and Social Security.

Yet the president's strategy of not deeply engaging with Congress carries a big risk: that he will be seen as failing to lead on a seri-

ous threat to the country's future, the mounting federal debt. And if Washington's dysfunction extends to next November, voters show every sign of taking out their wrath on everyone involved — not least the occupant of the White House.

Republicans wasted no time trying to fan the idea of a leadership deficit in the White House, even before the deficit committee made its failure official on Monday.

"He's done nothing," said Mitt Romney, the former Massachusetts governor who is seen by the Obama circle as the candidate most likely to be the Republican presidential nominee. "It's another example of failed leadership."

But Republicans were not alone in attacking. In New York, Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg, a Republican-turned-independent, said the buck rests with the president.

"It's the chief executive's job to bring people together and to provide leadership. I don't see that happening," Bloomberg said at a news conference.

The White House rejects such criticism, even as the president and his advisers have long expected it. But the risk to his leadership image was one they decided to take back in August, after Obama's prolonged summer fight with congressional Republicans over raising the nation's debt limit had depressed his approval ratings to the lowest point of his presidency. The bigger risk, the advisers believed, would be to once again get in the budget weeds with lawmakers and again come up empty-handed.

"A president's job is to lay out a plan and then rally the country to that plan," said Dan Pfeiffer, the White House communications director. "This president has done exactly that."

He put forward a detailed balanced \$3 trillion deficit reduction plan, and overwhelming majorities of Americans support his approach. But, if at the end of the day, the other party decides that adhering to rigid ideological dogmas is more important than what the American people want, that's their choice to make."

Egypt's civilian government submits offer to resign

By David D. Kirkpatrick and Liam Stack

THE NEW YORK TIMES

so-called "national rescue" government would replace or continue to report to the ruling military council.

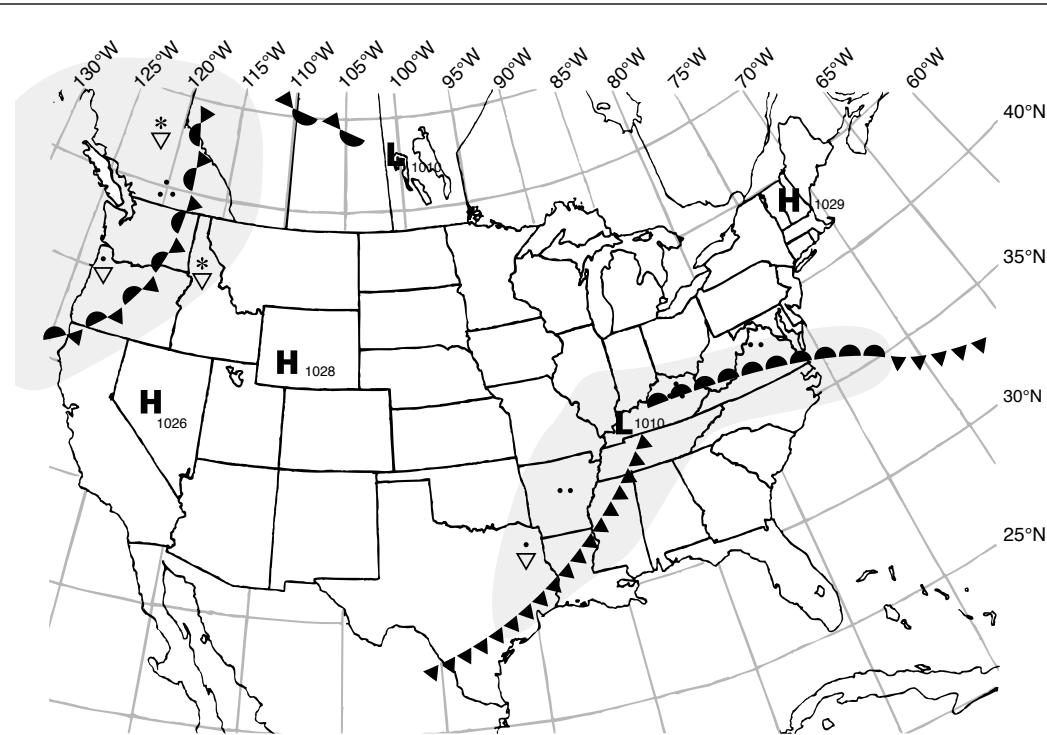
After a meeting Monday of about two dozen political groups, a top leader of the Muslim Brotherhood who attended the event delivered a collective apology for their delay in joining the protesters' calls for the military council to relinquish its power.

But the Muslim Brotherhood, Egypt's best organized political force, and its newly founded political party, later announced that they would not attend the march. It was the latest sign of the group's equivocation over the protests, which threaten to delay the timing of the first parliamentary elections since the ouster of President Hosni Mubarak nine months ago and which are now scheduled a week from Monday — a vote in which the Brotherhood is poised to reap big gains. A growing number of political leaders privately acknowl-

edged growing doubts that the elections would take place next Monday. But without the announcement of a new government any postponement of the elections could set off a firestorm, and all parties have called for the elections to proceed as scheduled next week.

Meanwhile, the army and security forces resorted to increasingly lethal violence against protesters in Tahrir Square to hold back a continuing siege of the interior ministry headquarters a few blocks away.

The Egyptian health minister said that 23 people had died and that more than 1,500 been wounded since Sunday morning. Doctors in a field clinic near Tahrir Square and a major hospital reported seeing as many as ten patients killed by live ammunition. Speaking on condition of anonymity, three doctors at the hospital each said that administrators had told them not to disclose the use of live ammunition.



Arrest of top adviser to Iran's president is reported

By Rick Gladstone
and Artin Afkhami
THE NEW YORK TIMES

A simmering rivalry between Iran's president and powerful adversaries within the conservative hierarchy spilled into the open Monday when judiciary forces briefly arrested his top media adviser, who also runs the official news agency and a leading newspaper, witnesses and Iranian news accounts said. The witnesses said the adviser, Ali Akbar Javanfekr, was handcuffed for an hour in a raid on his Tehran office and released only after President Mahmoud Ahmadinejad threatened to come person-

ally and free him. The security forces used tear gas when they barged into the office, the witnesses said, and they arrested at least 32 other people. It was not clear whether the others had been released. Javanfekr is the chief executive of the official Islamic Republic News Agency, known by its acronym, IRNA, and the manager of IRNA's print affiliate, Iran, the official daily newspaper. He is one of the most powerful figures in publicizing Iran's government policies and messages to the outside world. Details on the exact circumstances of the raid were not clear. But the episode appeared to be the most dramatic instance in which the friction between

Ahmadinejad and conservatives in the government emerged in the open; the president's conservative critics have increasingly challenged him over what they regard as a "deviant current" of presidential advisers who want to subvert the authority of the Islamic clergy.

The catalyst for the Javanfekr's arrest appeared to be a ruling Sunday by an Iranian court that Javanfekr had offended Islamic values by questioning the Islamic dress code for women. The court ordered him imprisoned for a year and barred him from working in journalism for three years, but Javanfekr had a few weeks to appeal the punishment.

Syrian opposition meets with British officials

By Sebnem Arsu
THE NEW YORK TIMES

ISTANBUL — Syria's political opposition widened its outreach Monday, sending representatives to Britain as the Syrian government withstood signs of further isolation over an uprising that is increasingly resembling a prolonged armed struggle to oust President Bashar Assad.

William Hague, Britain's foreign secretary, met with the opposition representatives, the Foreign Office said on its website. Hague did not specify what type of assistance, if any, was discussed, but he said in a statement that "we want to con-

tinue to step up the international pressure on the Assad regime, a regime that has long since lost its legitimacy in the eyes of the wider world."

The Arab League has suspended Syria, and a growing number of countries, led by the United States and members of the European Union, have penalized Assad with economic sanctions. Turkey, which Assad had once counted as a friend, has also castigated him, given sanctuary to an insurgent group and threatened further action.

Turkey's president, Abdullah Gul, who was about to begin a three-day visit to Britain, said in an interview with the BBC on Monday

that Assad was not serious about meeting the legitimate demands of his political opponents, "so therefore we don't have any more trust."

The developments came as anti-Assad activist groups reported 12 new deaths Monday in the Syria uprising, which has claimed more than 3,500 lives by the United Nations' count since it began in March.

Reuters said the latest civilian deaths included two youths killed by Syrian security forces in the central city of Homs, an epicenter of the movement, as the forces were looking for a Syrian soccer celebrity, Abdelbasset Saroud, who has been leading protest rallies against Assad.

Prosecutors: Khmer Rouge leaders' brutality 'defies belief'

PHNOM PENH, Cambodia — Opening statements in the most significant stage of a U.N.-backed trial of Khmer Rouge leaders began Monday with a horrifying account of the atrocities of a regime that a prosecutor said was responsible for the deaths of one-fourth of the population during its four-year rule from 1975 to 1979.

The three defendants, former leaders of the Khmer Rouge, listened as one of two prosecutors, Chea Leang, accused them of turning the country into "a massive slave camp producing an entire nation of prisoners living under a system of brutality that defies belief."

The defendants include Nuon Chea, 85, the party's chief ideologue, who the prosecution said received reports and gave specific directions as to "who would be arrested and who would be killed."

The other prosecutor, Andrew Cayley, said one witness who would testify to receiving these instructions was Kaing Guek Eav, commandant of the movement's main prison, who was sentenced in July 2010 to 35 years in prison, later commuted to 19.

—Seth Mydans, *The New York Times*

King of Jordan visits the West Bank

RAMALLAH, West Bank — King Abdullah II of Jordan visited the Palestinian West Bank for the first time in a decade Monday and conferred with President Mahmoud Abbas of the Palestinian Authority as both men begin risky reconciliation efforts with the Islamists of Hamas.

Abbas is to hold power-sharing talks with Khaled Meshal of Hamas this week in Cairo to try to put an end to a four-year-old bitter division within the Palestinian movement. Meshal, who is based in the Syrian capital, Damascus, and has been barred from official visits to Jordan since 1999, has been invited there next week.

As popular upheavals across the Middle East grant Islamist parties more influence, both Abbas and the king are being pressed to soften their policies toward Hamas.

—Ethan Bronner, *The New York Times*

As Wall Street downsizes, a dry spell for young workers

NEW YORK — Steve Ferdman celebrated getting a job offer this fall from Credit Suisse in the usual Wall Street fashion. Over oysters and dark rum cocktails at a trendy Manhattan restaurant with his parents.

A week later, Ferdman, 28, sat alone at the same place with a gin and tonic, lamenting getting laid off by the bank, for the second time since 2008.

"I did everything right. I came into work every day, I put in long hours, and I still got punched in the face," Ferdman said. "People shouldn't want to work in this industry anymore."

Being young on Wall Street once meant having it all: style, smarts and too much money. Now, 20-somethings in the finance industry are losing cash and cachet.

Three years after the global financial crisis nearly brought Wall Street firms to the brink, the nation's largest banks are again struggling. As profits wane, layoffs have claimed thousands of jobs and those still employed have seen their compensation shrink.

—Kevin Roose, *The New York Times*

Failure absorbed with disgust and fear, but little surprise

Does the U.S. political system even work anymore?

Variations on that question kept coming up Monday as Americans — at least those paying attention — absorbed the news that the congressional committee charged with reducing the deficit had failed to even meet very often, let alone come up with a plan to get the country back in the black. From shoppers in Los Angeles to tourists in Atlanta to traders taking cigarette breaks outside the Chicago Board of Trade, the eye-rolling that often accompanies doings in Washington gave way to something bordering on dismay.

"My reaction when I heard they failed was more emotional than anything," Elizabeth Weinraub, a 25-year-old retail manager, said as she got her morning fix at a Los Angeles Starbucks. "I'm not even sure what that means in the grand scheme. But it was a bum-out."

People were not just annoyed: they were worried. Khalfani Lawson, a 23-year-old student at Kennesaw State University in Georgia, said the lack of progress was breeding apathy among the young.

A record 84 percent of Americans said they disapproved of the way Congress was handling its job in the most recent New York Times/CBS News poll last month, the most since The Times first began asking the question in 1977. Congress' approval rating has sunk to 9 percent, the poll found, a record low.

—Michael Cooper, *The New York Times*

Gilead will buy Pharmasset for \$11 billion

Gilead Sciences made a bold move Monday to capture the lead in developing the next generation of hepatitis C drugs, agreeing to pay \$11 billion in cash for Pharmasset.

The treatment of hepatitis C has undergone a revolution this year, with new pills from Vertex Pharmaceuticals and Merck sharply increasing the cure rates and also often cutting the required duration of treatment. But those new drugs still must be used with alpha interferon, a type of drug injected once a week that can cause severe flu-like symptoms and other side effects.

Pharmasset, based in Princeton, N.J., is pushing to develop the first all-oral treatment regimen, doing away with the need for interferon. Its drug candidate, PSI-7977, has just entered the final phase of clinical testing and could be on the market by 2014, Gilead said.

Pharmasset is "way ahead of everybody else," Norbert W. Bischofberger, Gilead's executive vice president for research and development, told analysts in a Monday morning conference call.

—Andrew Pollack and Michael J. De La Merced, *The New York Times*

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Bias in Occupy Harvard article?

Thank you for the full-width front-page photo of Friday's MITHenge in the Nov. 15 edition. What an outstanding sight.

However, the reporting involving our distinguished alum deserved better handling than was forthcoming in the story immediately below that awesome photo.

The piece contained language that could itself be accused of bias. The correct tone for reporting is not "bias ... which was identified in an open letter," but rather "bias ... which was the subject of an open letter." Similarly, the phrase "because of problems students raised with the class" is not well thought out. "Problems" are not capable of being "raised." "Problems"

may exist, or be perceived, which may subsequently lead to "questions" or "issues" being raised. But in any case, there is certainly a piece of sentence structure regarding perception that is absent, implying syntactically that a fact about 'problems' is being reported, rather than an opinion.

Also, the phrase "to show solidarity with" unquoted is hardly correct form for a meaningful campus newspaper like our venerable *Tech*. This is the second time we have seen this phrase on the front page in four weeks.

The student who organized a walk-out of 10 percent of the students in that Harvard class clearly shows her political motivation in the quotes given. The sole coherent motivation given in these quotes is that she objects to the economic poli-

cies of the President for whom our alum, her professor, once worked. In fact not one coherent argument for reasonable perception of bias in Mankiw's class is presented. It could be very reasonably suggested that while such an event with questionable motives does deserve reporting, it does not deserve reporting as the first story in our *Tech*, especially in such a fashion that could easily be accused of taking the side against our alum, and with the politically-motivated 10 percent of a Harvard class.

Thank you for continuing to spark our interest. However, it appears that additional editorial review may be required to maintain the standard of reportage to which we have become accustomed, and which our alums deserve.

Douglas B. Seymour is an SM candidate in Course 1.

Occupying is not the answer
OWS should focus on action to be taken seriously

By Laya Rajan

Throughout history, American movements for social justice have been given life by protesters exercising their freedom of speech. However, the ones that succeeded did so by coupling the voices of the people with concrete goals and actions. In recent months, Occupy Wall Street, utilizing the empty rally cry "We are the 99 percent" has gotten only half of this formula correct. Everyone, including the protesters, is confused by the movement's complete lack of a clear message. Occupiers, as they're being called, despise corporate America, people with generously-paying jobs, and anything with a semblance of elitism.

At its foundation, their grievances are not unreasonable: unemployment is at a high, the middle class is hurting worse than ever, and Americans are struggling to pay their mortgages and put food on the table.

Times are tough, but can these problems be solved by causing a fire hazard in the financial district? If people really want to improve their lives, they need to seek higher education.

"But crushing student debt is part of the reason we're standing out here!" Occupiers would reply. However, higher education need not always come with a hefty price tag. State schools, like New York's SUNY Stony Brook, provide an excellent education for a few — not 50 — thousand dollars a year. The College Board reports that 44 percent of students attending a four-year college are paying less than \$9,000 dollars per year in tuition and fees. With an on-campus job, that hardly seems like a debilitating amount of debt. There is also the flexible and cost-effective option of community college, which would endow people with practical skills necessary in the workplace.

People are occupying Wall Street because they're standing up against greed, entitlement, and the deteriorating quality of life for the middle class, right? Wall Street is an easy scapegoat because a select few at the top are making fantastic sums of money, the so-called "one percent." Their protestations are fundamentally hollow because they identify a very small portion of people as the reason for all the ills we face. But the Puritan spirit that once animated this nation still resonates with people, and Americans are still believers in the virtue and reward of hard work.

What people have forgotten is that meritocracies are inherently unequal, and this is

not the problem. It's just the deceit and illegal activities of a small group of business leaders, along with the laxity of financial regulators, that has wreaked havoc on the system. People must distinguish the ill-gotten gains of illegal activities from the legitimate rewards of hard work. Furthermore, blaming those with money is the outlet of a frustrated population. Given the chance, every person who is occupying Wall Street would want to be fabulously wealthy — the issue is that they are not being given the opportunity to do so. This is a flaw stemming largely from irresponsible government spending and a dismal economic climate. It's just more convenient to let the blame fall on those who are unaffected.

The slogan 'We want a university for the 99%' is ludicrous. 99% of American universities are for the 99%.

The recent "Occupy Harvard" movement is an even stranger stepchild of the main movement. I happened to be in Harvard Square the night it began. My first impression was that it was an extension of the Occupy Wall Street movement protesting the perceived elitism attached to Harvard. Multiple sources, including the college, have confirmed that some of the protesters are Harvard students seeking greater equity within the university (for example, decreasing the 180:1 pay ratio between administration and custodial staff).

And while there's nothing inherently wrong with trying to increase the salary of hardworking custodial staff, I find the slogan "We want a university for the 99%" ludicrous. Ninety-nine percent of American universities are for the 99 percent. Much like the main OWS movement, Occupy Harvard lacks a clear message and clear demands. If students are fighting for more equity for employees of the university, there are certainly more effective and mature ways to get their point across.

As it stands, the merit of their claim is lost in a maelstrom of grumbling, and diluted by the undercurrent of random protesters using the uproar as a platform to advance unrelated complaints. Furthermore, walking out of an introductory economics class probably isn't the best method for a student to improve the country's fiscal

practices. If these students wish to provide leadership on economical issues in the future, they'd be better off staying in the classroom. We've all seen the havoc people without a firm grasp on economics can wreak when put in charge of the financial sector.

The frustration of Occupiers is genuine. America needs to change, but we require ideas and action, not lip service. First, the country needs leaders who can inspire people to put the nation first, and navigate the conflicting needs that lie at the intersection of industry and government. The bitterly bipartisan, highly lobbied nature of Washington and a political climate hostile to any legislation that would lose money for big corporations is a real issue. This time, empty rhetoric about cooperation from both sides of the isle is not going to do the trick. One interesting idea advanced by Howard Schultz, chairman and CEO of Starbucks, is a boycott of politicians — that is, halting campaign contributions until Americans get results from the government.

The business of America is business. Big business may be reviled, but it is also part of the solution to unemployment. A *New York Times* article by Jared Bernstein, former economic advisor to Joe Biden, explains that small businesses, contrary to popular belief, are not the engine of the country's economy, nor are they the key to new jobs. It's larger businesses that create wealth, and the growth of small businesses into larger ones that provide work for Americans.

Finally, there should be a renewed focus on self-reliance, on public involvement in improvement from the ground up. Everyone knows the economy has tanked, our public education system is broken, and the healthcare and Social Security systems are a fiasco. We need change. But we're not going to effect it by sitting in the streets. Citizens can get involved in their local school boards and help to enact education reform. Americans can strive to enrich their children's learning experiences and broaden their cultural knowledge, better preparing them to compete in a global economy. Change will not be easy. However, I can't help but feel that those who truly wish to change the lot of "the 99 percent" should be devoting their energy to these matters instead of simply being content to express discontent.

Laya Rajan is a member of the Class of 2014.

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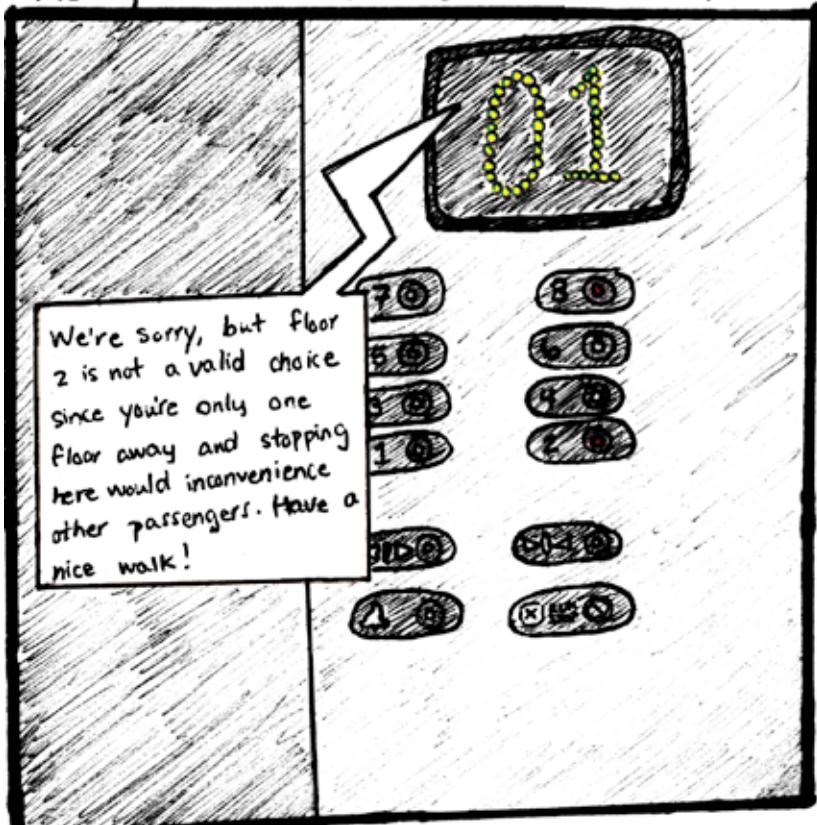
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Least Action Principle

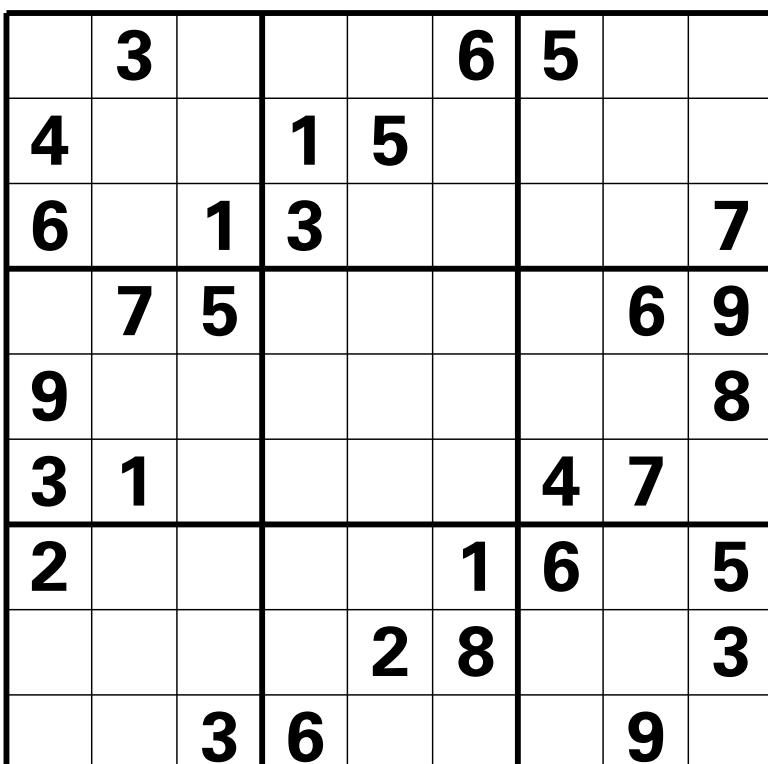
by Amanda Aparicio

The Impatient Person's Dream Elevator



Sudoku

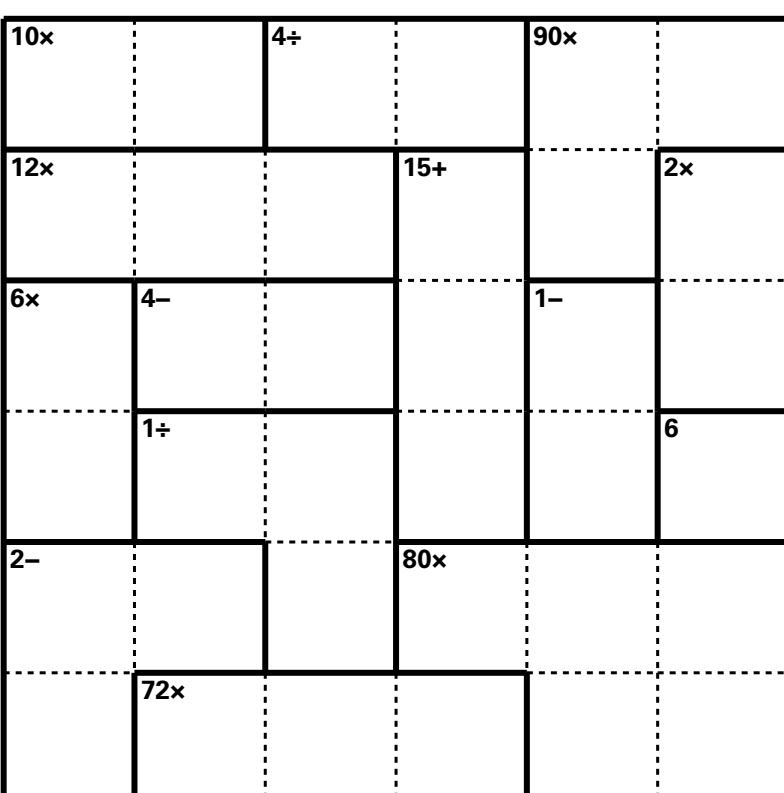
Solution, page 11



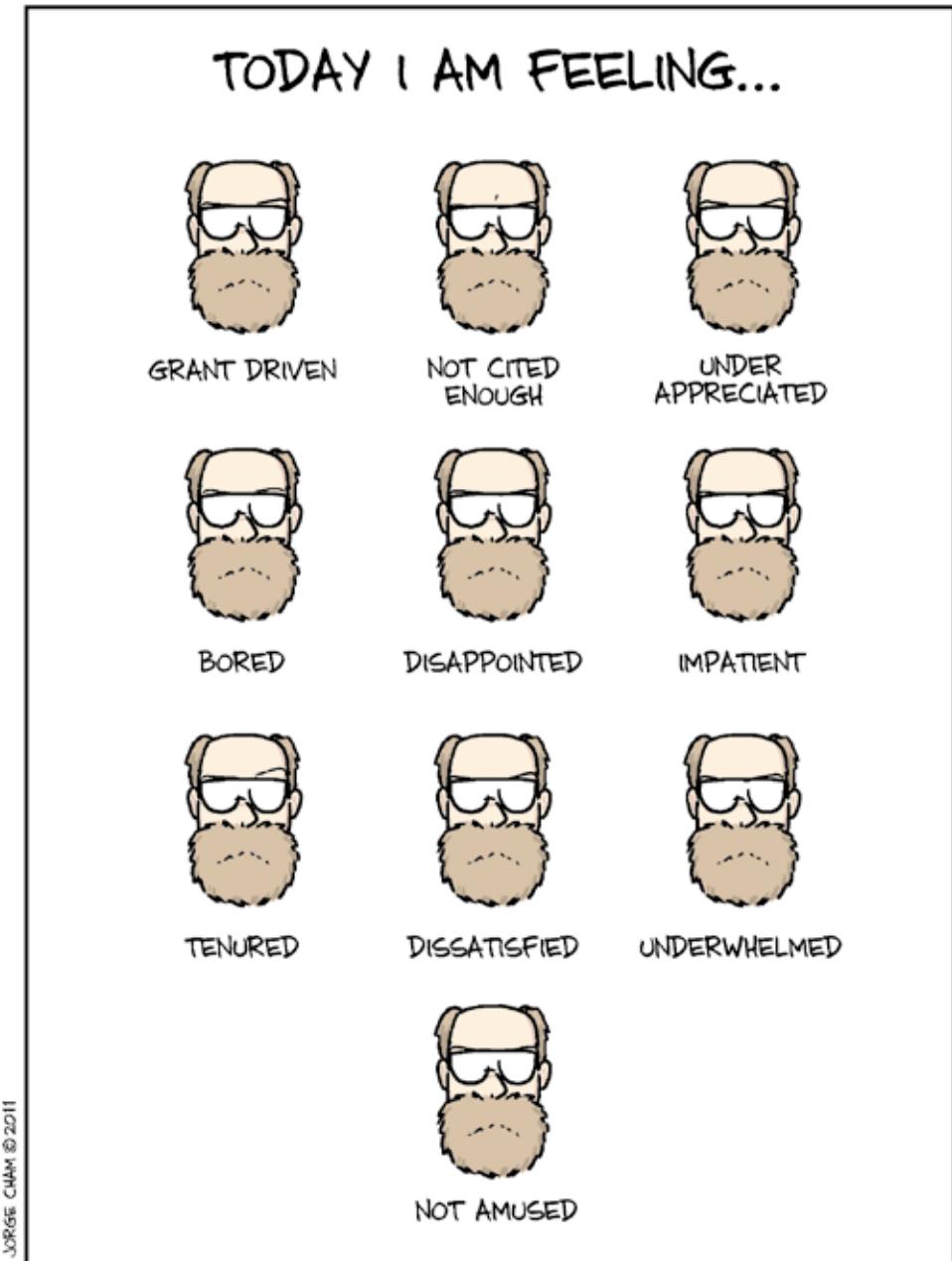
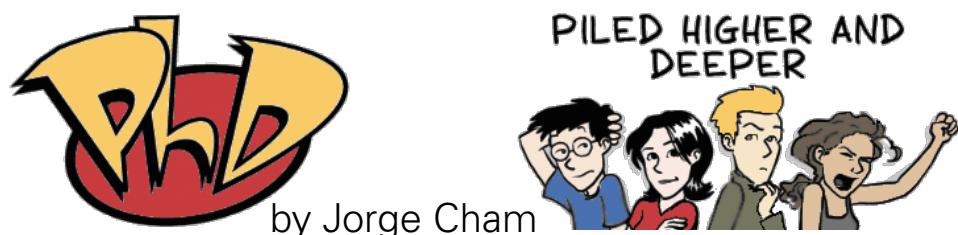
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Techdoku

Touch



Instructions: Fill in the grid so that each column and row contains exactly one of each of the numbers 1–6. Follow the mathematical operations for each box.





Team Instinct faces off against **Team Believe the Hype** in the finals of the *Halo: Reach* event at the Major League Gaming (MLG) competition in Providence, RI over the weekend. Instincts went on to become the MLG 2011 national champions, taking away a prize purse of \$100,000.

FENG WU—THE TECH

Pfizer stresses MIT collaboration

Center will complement Kendall area biotech cluster

Groundbreaking, from Page 1

researchers, Dolsten said. Pfizer will be working directly with some MIT groups and researchers from the Picower Institute for Learning and Memory, McGovern Institute for Brain Research, the Whitehead Institute for Biomedical Research, and the Broad Institute.

Pfizer's presence near the MIT campus will help break down the barrier between research in academia and engineering in industry, speakers said. "The center of why we're here is to reshape the ecosystem of innovation," said Dolsten.

Pfizer's new center is the latest addition to the Kendall Square-area cluster of biotechnology firms. Kendall Square already houses over 150 biotechnology and information firms including biotech giants Biogen Idec, Genzyme, and Novartis. Governor Patrick remarked that this is part of an upward trend for Cambridge; in a bad economy, the

city's unemployment is already going down, and Massachusetts has moved to sixth place in CNBC's rankings of top states for business.

By placing emphasis on companies like Pfizer, Cambridge will utilize what Governor Patrick calls "Cambridge's best natural resource" — brainpower. "We are inventing and shaping our own future, and not waiting for chance," he said.

The new Pfizer center in Cambridge will house the company's Cardiovascular, Metabolic and Endocrine Diseases and Neuroscience research units. In February, Pfizer announced that it would be narrowing its research efforts to concentrate more heavily on these specialties.

Pfizer has high hopes for a future in biomedical sciences. According to Dolsten, the company's ideal achievement would be a complete reference listing of links between genes and diseases — a sort of phonebook or yellow pages of biomedicine. Dolsten's goal is an ambitious one,

but he says the rate at which technology has advanced is extraordinary — just a decade ago, sequencing the human genome required a billion dollars and ten years; today, it can be done for \$4,000 in a week.

"Imagine what our world will look like in 2021 if technology advances at the same rate," he added.

McKenzie acknowledged that biomedical research is a difficult field. "For when the going gets tough, we have a quote [that we] put up around the laboratories: 'Remember, the patient is waiting for us.'

Allen Krieger '62, a fellow of the American Physical Society, made the closing remarks at the ceremony. As someone who has been diagnosed with early-stage Alzheimer's, he urged the importance of Pfizer's mission. "If there's anything I can do to keep the [Alzheimer's] wolf away, I want to do it," he said.

Pfizer predicts they will move into the new building when it is completed by the end of 2013.

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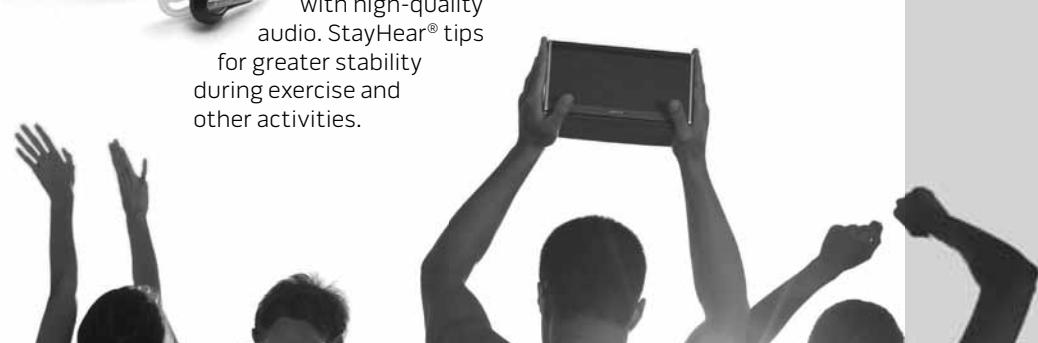
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Orientation, from Page 1

presentation and a public forum, where students and staff spoke about FPOPs, REX, Greek rush, and CityDays.

Smith presented some of the guiding principles and findings of the committee thus far. Smith said the most important question for the committee is: "Will [changing orientation] make the experience of first-year students better?"

During the presentation, Smith said that the committee wants to ensure that first-year students feel welcome at MIT and its residential communities, settle into their selection of classes, become aware of issues they might encounter during the year, and learn how to get help when the "inevitable pressures of MIT" begin to mount. The committee will be giving a report to Dean Chris Colombo and Dean Daniel E. Hastings '78 sometime in December or January.

At this point, the committee "is in no position to make any recommendations" and is still gathering information, Smith said. An additional forum may be held in January to get additional feedback.

Smith said that the committee focused on four areas: REX, Orientation, Rush, and FPOPs, and said that the entire orientation period amounted to a \$656,675 loss to MIT (not including Rush) from housing for early returns, food, and space usage — though they said cost would not be a big factor in their decision. The committee's said that freshmen are more overall satisfied with their orientation experience and feel more connected to MIT when compared to the orientation surveys conducted in 1997 and other those of other universities today. Smith identified the main successes of orientation as helping first-years meet, introducing them to off-campus activities, and getting them settled into classes.

The findings also reflected that students were more satisfied this year with summer dorm assignments and had "overwhelmingly positive" experiences with their FPOPs. With Rush, the committee reported that many students felt as if they did not have much time to make a decision, though participation in Rush did not correlate with satisfaction with orientation. When it comes to advising, which could "benefit from increased faculty participation," meetings with advisors and associate advisors are reportedly slightly more helpful than in 1997. The committee also wants to explore how to continue discussions of topics like alcohol awareness and sexual harassment into the year via living groups.

A Public Forum

The latter half of the event constituted an open forum where members of the MIT community could provide feedback. Kristi G. Kebinger, Community Volunteer Administrator from the Public Service Center, spoke about how participants of the Freshman Urban Program (FUP) benefit from community involvement and individual introspection, and also spoke about how the community benefited from both FUP and CityDays, an Institute-sponsored day of volunteering. The committee inquired about the merging of the two, which may be explored in the future.

Some students also spoke up about the benefits of FUP and other "developmental" (as opposed to academic) FPOPs — namely the Freshman Arts Program (FAP), Freshman Outdoors Program (FOP), and Freshman Leadership Program (FLP) — and also about how CityDays was a substitute for students who could not participate in an FPOP. The committee said that its members "recognize the value of all FPOPs" and do not plan on doing away with them.

Another student asked if the committee had considered doing away with REX altogether since she didn't think it was doing its job and was losing money. The committee replied that the data showed that REX was helping people meet each other and "find their way around social MIT." The committee members said that they want REX to focus more on community building and not be limited to occurring before the housing readjustment lottery deadline.

Many students were also there for issues regarding FSILG rush. Affiliates from Epsilon Theta, Phi Kappa Theta, and other FSILGs spoke in defense of the current timing of Rush and Recruitment, saying that, though the only con seems to be "Rush being too rushed," there are many benefits to an early Rush. One recent alumnus recalled that Recruitment was moved to Orientation from IAP for many good reasons — particularly the fact that some sororities have national regulations that they must follow that necessitate an early Recruitment — and said that the Institute seems to be forgetting its own decisions. Students also emphasized the "uniqueness" of MIT living groups in that they have their own methods of mentorship and community. Students said that Rush is also at a good time in the beginning of the year because freshmen benefit from pass/no record and FSILG members have more free time to recruit. A later Rush could see stressed freshmen, busy upperclassmen, and inclement weather.

—Bruno B. F. Faviero

Stephanie Lin discovered biology interest at MIT

Senior says experiences in UROPs, GPI inspired a medical interest with a global twist

Rhodes, from Page 1

pated in at MIT contributed to her interest in biology and medicine. "I did a couple UROPs related to medical science, and those research experiences made me increasingly interested in studying medicine," she said. She hopes to attend medical school after finishing her year at Oxford.

At the Whitehead Lab, she did research on the Kaposi's sarcoma virus, a cancer-causing virus that commonly infects AIDS patients. She has also worked with Assistant Professor

of Biology Jeroen Saeij, studying the parasite Toxoplasma gondii, which primarily targets cats and rats.

Lin has also been very active in the campus community. She currently acts as vice president for education in her sorority, Kappa Alpha Theta, and is the editor-in-chief of MIT's literary magazine Rune. She is also a fluent speaker of Spanish and Mandarin (in fact, Lin's concentration is in Spanish).

Lin has worked abroad in Mexico during IAP and the summer as part of MIT's Global Poverty Initiative. There, she worked on developing

agricultural education and building greenhouses to improve nutrition and teach people how to use agricultural technologies. "My experiences abroad really drew me into global health, particularly because there is such a huge disparity in health care quality between developed and developing nations," she noted. "My interest in infectious diseases ties well with international health issues, because of the presence of malaria and tuberculosis in some developing nations."

According to Lin, one of her motivations for applying to the Rhodes

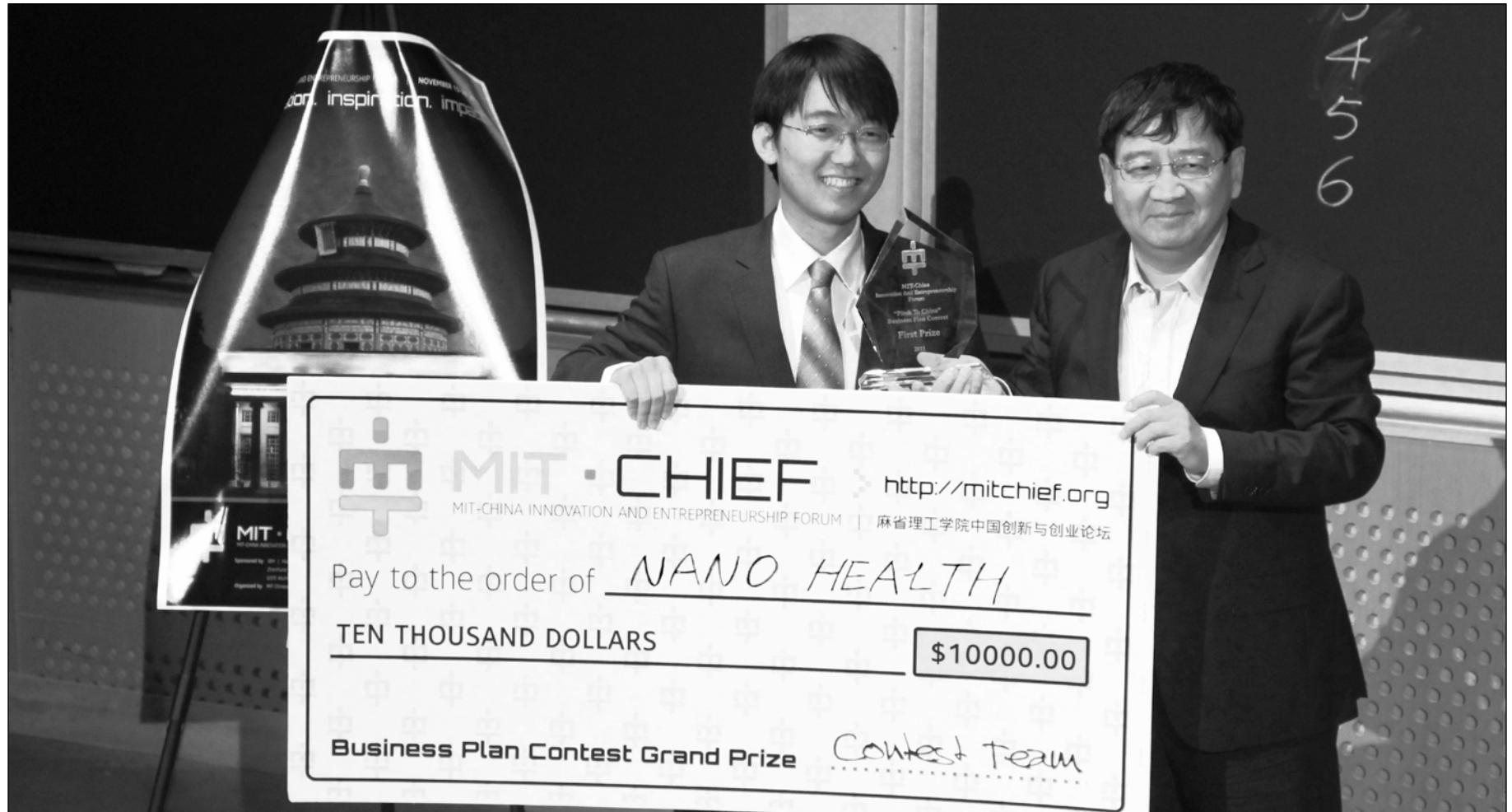
Scholarship was the abundance of diverse programs at Oxford. She feels that Oxford is a good place to explore the social side of education. "I like the self-directed learning approach at Oxford and the strong humanities program," Lin said. "It's a terrific place to think and grow."

"The application process was definitely challenging," she added. "But I definitely got a lot of support throughout the application process, from my family, friends, sisters at Theta, professors, and staff."

When asked about what advice she would give to students, she said,

"Be flexible and don't be afraid to pursue what you genuinely excited about. Make sure to take advantage of the great opportunities MIT offers outside of your coursework."

Lin acknowledged that it is easy to feel overburdened with studies, but she emphasized the importance of exploring MIT's opportunities and forming close relationships with students. "It's very special that here you can form bonds with other students who are passionate about math and science, and who will have amazing accomplishments in the future," Lin said.



KAILIANG CHEN—THE TECH

Qimin Quan wins first place in the "Pitch to China" business plan competition for his biosensor technology for medical diagnostics, "Nano Health," on Sunday. The competition was part of the MIT-China Innovation and Entrepreneurship Forum, a two-day event designed to encourage collaboration between China and the United States in technology and entrepreneurship.

Student 'Occupiers' protest tuition hikes in UC system

University of California tuition has nearly doubled over past several years, amidst education cuts

Protests, from Page 1

A video that showed two University of California, Davis, police officers using pepper spray on seated protesters has gone viral, with hundreds of thousands watching what might have been a relatively small encampment when compared to the larger protests across the country. The video has led to demands that Chancellor Linda P. B. Katehi resign. On Monday, Katehi said she was putting the campus police chief on administrative leave as a way to rebuild trust on campus.

The attack has galvanized protesters on other campuses. Students at the Los Angeles, Berkeley, Riverside, and Davis campuses said Monday that they intended to restart their encampments Monday night, in part to test whether they will be rousted or arrested in the wake of the pepper-spraying.

After years of watching the state's budget for higher education erode, they are demanding that the state and university administrators find a way to lower tuition that they say is squeezing out the middle class.

"These are institutions that we call the people's university, but all of us who are in it have just watched this thing collapse on itself being starved for resources year after year," said Lilian Tai, the president of the California Faculty Association, the union that represents professors in the California State University system. "What keeps happening is that we are turning the university into a place where really only the wealthy can go. The

students are watching their parents fall out of the middle class and watching their own ability to move into it be sabotaged."

Tuition at the University of California has nearly doubled over the past several years, and next year the system will collect more money from student tuition than from state revenues. And with the state budget situation worsening by the month, the Legislature seems likely to impose another \$200 million in higher education cuts next year. Last week, the California State University Board of Trustees approved a 9 percent tuition increase, even as it cuts courses and student services.

"For the last several years, the debate has been what are we going to cut, but we need to change the conversation to who is going to pay for public education," said Kyle Arnone, one of the protest organizers at the University of California, Los Angeles, and a graduate student in sociology. "We are forcing people to consider the financing of education in a larger context."

Like many of the organizers involved in the protest, Arnone is a member of the union that represents graduate students. The union is part of a coalition of labor groups and other organizations that are pressing to close a loophole in the state's property taxes and to increase taxes on the state's wealthiest residents. Arnone said the organization hoped to pressure the regents who oversee the system's budget to sign a pledge backing the changes in the state's tax system.

Arnone said he expected dozens of students to camp at UCLA overnight Monday. At the same time, other students are planning to camp out and guard a Bruin statue, the campus mascot. The statue is often vandalized this time of year, ahead of the football game against the school's cross-town rival, the University of Southern California.

"We're going to make them deal with whether they'll selectively enforce their laws."

The University of California president, Mark G. Yudof, convened a conference call with the chancellors of all 10 campuses, urging them not to use police force to respond to "peace-

ful, lawful protests," said Daniel M. Dooley, a senior vice president for the system who participated in the call. The president also plans to create protocols to detail how the campuses should respond to the ongoing protest.

Dooley said that he did not expect Katehi to resign and that Yudof had confidence that she could move the campus beyond the incident.

Thousands of people gathered on the Davis campus for a noon rally Monday where Katehi spoke. Organizers of the protest there told her she should wait in line with other speakers.

"I am here to apologize. I feel hor-

ful, lawless, and in many ways are sympathetic to the protesters' demands.

"The rapidly rising fees give us all heartburn," said Gabor Bafri, the vice chancellor for equity and inclusion at Berkeley, who has met with the protesters several times. "We don't believe that higher education is a private right but a public good."

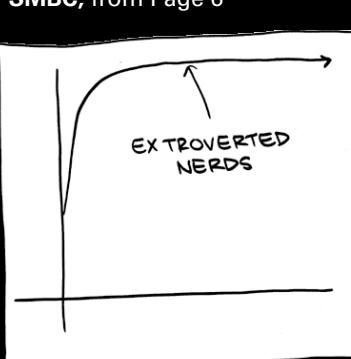
Bafri added: "The problem is that the protesters aren't one group. We've got protesters who want to take the place down, and we have very responsible student leaders and everybody in between. When it gets tangled up with how the university responds, it makes things more complicated."

Solution to Sudoku

from page 6

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SMBC, from Page 6



Solution to Techdoku

from page 6

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| 1 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 2 | 5 |

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ATHLETE OF THE WEEK: LOGAN M. TRIMBLE '13

Junior dominates in cross-country and track
Trimble balances running and tough classes, with the occasional movie or night out

By Nidharshan Anandasivam
SPORTS STAFF

Logan M. Trimble '13 is a junior in Course 10B and a member of the MIT Cross Country, Indoor, and Outdoor Track teams. As an active sophomore last year, Trimble competed for MIT at the NCAA Division III Championship, in which his relay team earned All-American status. Later that year, Trimble won the NEWMAC Academic All-Conference Award, demonstrating excellence in varsity sports as well as academics.

When asked about what motivates him to do varsity sports, Logan said, "I like [the teams] because they give me an opportunity to be really competitive at something I enjoy doing. I also love the small, tight-knit cross-country team and the rather large, but still somehow tight-knit, track teams." But running was not always Logan's only passion. "I also loved playing soccer, so when I got to high school I participated in as much running and soccer as I could. I eventually realized I was better at running, so I devoted all of my time to running."

What is the MIT running life like for Logan? "Practice on Mondays and Tuesdays tend to be long, so those nights tend to be later. Friday night I usually stay in because

we have a meet the next day; on Saturday I go to the meet, and on Sunday I play catch-up."

This is not all, though, since there are also track meets to consider. "We have several races each year in Boston (Franklin Park for cross-country, BU for indoor track, or here at MIT for indoor and outdoor track). Our away meets are generally only one to two hours away in New England."

How does Logan manage to balance his running life with his academic life? Carefully. "Since practice is during a limited time each day, it is not hard to make sure to allocate time to track and cross-country. The hard part is always that extra bit of motivation it takes to get studying after a nine- or 10-mile run. Since it does take up quite a bit of time, it is really necessary to be efficient with my use of any free time, which I'm still working on — I'll get back to you if I ever figure it out."

Although Logan devotes a good deal of time to running, he also devotes the necessary time for certain classes, either because they are intense or because they're interesting. "My most intense class is 10.302 [Transport Processes] because it's 10.302. But really, it's just hard stuff — heat and mass transfer. My favorite class right now is



PATRICK BARRAGAN

Trimble won last year's NEWMAC Academic All-Conference award.

Engineering Innovation and Design. It approaches engineering from a direction that most classes don't — the design," Trimble said.

In case Logan manages to find spare time, Logan knows how he will use it. "My favorite spare time activity would probably be to go out to dinner somewhere in Boston and find something fun to do. Otherwise I

enjoy an evening in, watching a movie." His hobbies include playing the guitar, playing video games (Guitar Hero), and other music-related endeavors.

Career-wise, Logan aspires to improve people's lives by working in industry. His interests are in pharmaceuticals and other fields that will directly impact people's well-being.

Basketball takes two more victories
Engineers overtake Gordon College (70-38) and RPI (104-75)

By Shri Ganeshram
SPORTS STAFF

Last Thursday, MIT's Men's Basketball obliterated Gordon College's Fighting Scots with a 70-38 victory. The Engineers literally beat the Fighting Scots in every category, with less turnovers and fouls and more assists, steals, blocks, and rebounds, as well as higher free throw, three point, and field goal percentages. MIT's Coach Anderson took advantage of the lack of fight in the Fighting Scots by clocking the bench in for more time than usual, resulting in a huge 23-point bench contribution. MIT played well as a team, which will be key to the Engineer's success in the future.

The game started off slowly for both teams, taking nearly four minutes for either team to score; Noel Hollingsworth '12 broke the peace with a jump shot. Hollingsworth went on to finish the game as the lead scorer with 15 points as well as five rebounds and two blocks in just 23 minutes of play. MIT was hot after Hollingsworth's shot, taking a lead of 15-2 by the 8-minute mark and finishing the half with a 34-14 lead. The team's stellar defense was apparent throughout the half, being able to shut down Gordon offensively, only allowing them to score two points in the first 12 minutes of the game.

The Engineers cruised after managing their huge early lead, treating the game more like a scrimmage, giving the youth of the team an opportunity to build skill, and the youth did well. William F. Dickson '14 was able to score six points and grab five balls off the board in just 10 minutes of play. Even though the Engineers didn't shut down the Fighting Scots defense quite as well as they had in the first half, Coach Anderson was more pleased with the team's performance in the second half as the scoreboard didn't relay how well the team played as a unit during the second half.

The second half of the game was rough — the Fighting Scots, aggravated with their low score, played an incredibly aggressive game. The Engineers responded well, doing what they do best — being smart. Gordon College pushed for the ball, guarding the men too closely; MIT used the aggressive defense to its advantage, running through the holes to make a series of layups between James D. Karraker '12, Mitchell H. Kates '13, William E. Bender '12, and Hollingsworth, leaving the Engineers with a huge lead of 48-18 after just four and a half minutes of play in the second half. MIT cruised from that point on in the game, giving the bench a large amount of playing time.

The Engineer's defense was phenomenal during the game — MIT's height

and quickness combined with good team communication put a lot of pressure on Gordon College's offense, causing the team to buckle. Notable performances came from the thieves of the game, William Tashman '13 and Kates. Tashman just missed a double-double, with nine points and nine rebounds, and an impressive 3 steals, 5 assists, and a block. Kates had really nimble fingers, snagging 4 steals and scoring 10 points, with 3 assists and 2 rebounds to top the game off. The Engineers, as a team, dominated the boards as usual, with 35 rebounds and snatched well with 10 assists. On the offensive end of the court, the Engineers managed to impress making 50 percent from downtown and 51 percent from the field.

MIT vs. RPI

On Saturday, the Engineers of MIT proved to be more skilled than the Engineers of Rensselaer (RPI). RPI proved to be a formidable team with their ice hockey style of play — instead of the traditional one or two substitutions every couple of minutes, RPI subbed the entire team, which, in theory, allowed them to play every point fresh and full of energy. Cardinal and Gray had to adjust to RPI's style of play. Generally a team that slows down their opponents, the Engineers of MIT found themselves playing a much quicker style of play in order to hold RPI from taking a victory.

The game stayed even much of the first half; RPI and MIT were tied with 9:44 left in the first half and a score of 26-26, when RPI made a four-player substitution which turned the game around. MIT, catching on to RPI's style, were able to capitalize on the poor plays of RPI's fresh off the bench squad, who were not yet tuned with the MIT Engineer's game. MIT went on an 11-2 run, during which RPI missed five from downtown and made three turnovers, giving Cardinal and Gray a 37-28 edge on RPI. The MIT Engineers ended the first half in the lead, 46-37.

Rensselaer played extremely aggressively at the start of the second half; missing their shot attempts at first, RPI let MIT take a 54-40 lead. Then, the buckets started to fall for RPI, focusing on the three-point shot and going on a 13-3 run, RPI found themselves right behind MIT, only down 53-57 with a little less than 15 minutes of the half left. MIT, of course, responded. Cardinal and Gray found its groove; playing a strong defense, MIT needed to find its offensive firepower. The team started to play a more aggressive defense, taking advantage of RPI's full-court press — RPI, a team with less physique and skill than MIT, was not able to hold MIT's strong press break, leading to a series of break-and-drive layups. The team



William Tashman '13 takes a layup during the Men's Basketball game against RPI on Nov. 17. The Engineers defeated RPI 104-75.

went on to win by a resounding 29 points, with a final result of 104-75.

There have been reservations made by MIT's offense in past games, but this last game against strong opponent RPI said otherwise. MIT's offense in the game was a full team effort, like their defense has been thus far. Only on the bench for two minutes during the entire game, William E. Bender '12 added to MIT's fire, scoring 24 points, joining William Tashman's '13 23 and Noel Hollingsworth's '12 28, giving the team 3 scoring stars to look at. Mitchell H. Kates '13 had a great game as point guard, taking home an impressive 9 assists and snatching the ball away from the opposition 3 times. Kates and Bender, two of the primary ball handlers of the team, held on to the ball incredibly well — only losing the ball three times in the entire game, both stealing the ball more times than losing it. James D. Karraker '12 and William F. Dickson '14 provided scoring options for the team as well, scoring 12 and 7 points respectively.

Tashman and Hollingsworth made their second double-doubles of the year, Tashman with 10 rebounds and Hollingsworth with 15. MIT's Engineers remain undefeated after the first week with a 3-0 record and will next play today at 2 p.m. at Emmanuel College.

Engineers dominate Albany, 65-49

By Mindy Brauer
DAPER STAFF

In a hard-fought battle, the MIT Women's Basketball team emerged with a 65-49 victory over Albany College of Pharmacy and Health Sciences in the consolation game of the Emerson College Tip Off Tournament on Sunday. Junior Lauren S. Burton '13 led all scorers with 16 points and tacked on seven rebounds and three assists en route to All-Tournament Team honors for the Engineers.

Sophomore Rachel A. Hunt '14 registered 11 points on a 9-of-10 performance for the charity stripe to go along with 11 rebounds and two blocks. Freshman Mari R. Kordell '15 posted 14 points as she converted seven of her eight attempts at the free-throw line in addition to dishing out five assists. Tamara R. Pena '14 tallied eight points, four assists, and three steals while Alexis R. Isaac '15 posted nine points and eight boards. Margo A. Batie '14 hauled in a career-high nine rebounds, helping MIT finish the day with a 41-34 advantage on the glass.

The Panthers opened the game with seven unanswered points which resulted in a timeout by MIT. Following the break, Burton and Pena both drained a three-pointer causing Albany to use a timeout. After a basket by the Panthers, Kordell buried a trey that evened the score at nine while Isaac tacked on a free throw to put the Engineers in front at 13:54.

The game became a back-and-forth affair as three lead changes and two ties occurred during the next nine minutes that saw Albany take a 17-16 edge. A pair of free throws from Hunt put MIT ahead for good and ignited an 11-2 run for a 27-19 advantage at halftime.

The Panthers stayed close during the early stages of the second stanza as they trimmed their deficit to five on two occasions, the last at 33-28 after five minutes elapsed. The Engineers doubled their margin on three free throws from Hunt and two by sophomore Sharon S. Hao '14 during the next minute, but Albany registered nine straight points to come within one (38-37) at the 10:52 mark.

MIT responded with a 10-3 spurt; however, the Panthers hit two of their next four free throw attempts to narrow the gap to six (48-42) with 4:25 left to play. A three-pointer by Burton thwarted Albany's attempt at generating a late rally and sparked a 17-7 run to secure the victory.

Despite reaching the bonus with 8:25 remaining, the Panthers were 3-of-12 from the line and finished at 12-of-27 for the game. Tech, meanwhile, was 11-of-17 during the final 7:31 after entering the bonus and had a 23-of-32 performance at the charity stripe on the day.

Next up for the Engineers (2-1) will be a pair of games in California. On Friday, Nov. 25, MIT will visit Caltech and then will travel to Occidental College the next day.

UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, Nov. 26

Men's Basketball vs. Suffolk University
2:00 p.m., Rockwell Cage